

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2877
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIOTIRY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0857

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, SF
SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: SOUTH AFRICA

REF: USUN 846(NOTAL)

1. COVERAGE OF SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE MORNING MARCH 22
BY SEPTTEL.
2. AT BRITISH REQUEST, FOLLOWING CHANGES MADE IN TEXT OF DRAFT
DECLARATION TRANSMITTED USUN 846(NOTAL):
3. PARA 14(D) TO READ: "FACILITATE THE HOLDING IN NAMIBIA ON A
TERRITORY-WIDE BASIS OF FREE ELECTIONS UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE
UNITED NATIONS AND REFRAIN FROM ANY STEPS INCONSISTENT THERE-
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WITH;". PARA 14(E) TO READ: "COMPLY WITH THE RELEVANT SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS ON THE QUESTIONS OF NAMIBIA AND
RHODESIA;".

4. FIVE WESTERN SC MEMBERS MET AT PERM REP LEVEL AFTERNOON
MARCH 22. BARTON (CABADA) SAID OTTAWA FEARS DRAFT
DELCARATION IS NOT TOUGH ENOUGHT AND, THEREFORE, WILL FAIL.

MEMBERS AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT DECLARATION WAS ONLY PART OF A PACKAGE, WHICH INCLUDED A DEMARCHE TO SOUTH AFRICA CONCERNING NAMIBIA, AND THE FORMATION OF A CONTACT GROUP. IT WAS AGREED THAT COPY OF DRAFT DECLARATION SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO AFRICANS AS PART OF THAT PACKAGE, AND AS ALTERNATIVE TO TABLING OF FOUR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS. BRITISH ADDED THAT LONDON VIEWED DECLARATION AS "FAR REACHING", A VIEW SHARED BY FRENCH.

5. NIGERIAN PERM REP HARRIMAN, JOINED BY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER GARBA, MET WITH GROUP THEREAFTER. AMBASSADOR YOUNG EXPLAINED OBJECTIVES OF DECLARATION AND OTHER WESTERNERS OBSERVED THAT DECLARATION WAS PART OF A PACKAGE AND WAS ALTERNATIVE TO TABLING OF DRAFTS. COPIES WERE GIVEN TO HARRIMAN AND GARBA.

6. HARRIMAN, STATING THAT HE WAS NOT FULLY MANDATED TO DO SO, NEVERTHELESS MADE SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS, ONE KEY ELEMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE INCORPORATED IN DECLARATION, HE SAID, WAS THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS CENTRAL TO RESOLUTION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS. AS NIGERIAN REP, HE WAS PREPARED TO OFFER FOLLOWING "CONCESSIONS": NO CHAPTER VII LANGUAGE WOULD BE INCLUDED, "STATE OF WAR" WOULD BE DROPPED. BUT BASIC ELEMENTS FROM OPERATIVE PARAS OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE INCLUDED IN DECLARATION. FURTHER, A VOLUNTARY CURTAILMENT OF INVESTMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES SHOULD NOT GRANT LOANS TO SOUTH AFRICA. A VOLUNTARY ARMS EMBARGO WOULD HAVE TO BE ANNOUNCED, INCLUDING SPARE PARTS, COMPONENTS, AND LICENSING. THE WEST MUST EXPRESS ITS CONCERN OVER APARTHEID AND BANTUSTANIZATION. HARRIMAN DID OBSERVE THAT DRAFT TEXTS

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WERE COMING OUT IN A PROVISIONAL FORM("ON BLUE").

7. AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID THAT CHOICE WAS REALLY WHETHER WE TRIED TO PUSH FOR DRAFT RESES NOW OR MOVE ON OTHER STEPS AND SEE WHAT SUCCESS THOSE STEPS MET. HARRIMAN THEN PROPOSED A STATEMENT FROM THE SC PRESIDENT, AT THE END OF THE DEBATE, POSSIBLY PRIOR TO READING A CONSENSUS DECLARATION, WHICH WOULD NOTE THAT FOUR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS WERE CIRCULATED BUT DECISION ON THEM WAS POSTPONED. HARRIMAN CAUTIONED THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES PARTICULARLY OPPOSED ANY INITIATIVE THAT KEPT THEM OUT OF PICTURE. HE CITED AFRICAN EXPERIENCE IN ACCEPTING WESTERN VIEWS ON SC RESOLUTION 385, ONLY TO BE DISAPPOINTED BY WESTERN ABSENCE OF FOLLOW-THROUGH. NOW, AFRICANS WERE PLACED IN POSITION OF BEING ASKED TO IGNORE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND CHINESE, WHO ARE TRADITIONAL SUPPORTERS, IN RETURN FOR A "HONEYMOON" WITH THOSE WHO HAVE TRADITIONALLY OPPOSED AFRICAN INITIATIVES. HE ALSO URGED INCLUSION IN ANY DECLARATION OF ELEMENTS OPPOSING INTERNAL SOLUTIONS IN NAMIBIA AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA

(UK BALKED AT THIS REFERENCE TO RHODESIA IN SUCH A DECLARATION). GARBA DESCRIBED DIFFICULTIES IN "WORKING WITH SAG", AS PRESCRIBED IN DRAFT DECLARATIONS PARA 15.

8. THOSE PRESENT AGREED TO GET TOGETHER AGAIN AFTERNOON MARCH 23, WITH EXPANDED PARTICIPATION OF AFRICANS, NON-ALIGNED, AND OTHERS.

9. FOLLOWING HARRIMAN'S AND GARBA'S DEPARTURE, WESTERN PERM REPS DISCUSSED CANADIAN PROPOSAL (NOT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM OTTAWA) TO HAVE NAMIBIA DEMARCHE MADE BY WESTERN REPS IN CAPETOWN, USING PAPER WHICH WOULD BE SIGNED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FIVE WESTERN COUNTRIES. UPON LEARNING SOUTH AFRICAN REACTION, A CONTACT GROUP COULD BE CONSTITUTED AND MEET WITH SAG. UK OPPOSED SWEDISH PARTICIPATION IN SUCH A GROUP. FRANCE PREFERRED THAT US REPRESENT ALL OTHERS; CONFIDENTIAL

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PURSUANT TO DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE, WE DISCOURAGED THIS.

10. IT WAS AGREED THAT WESTERN REPS WOULD BE NEGATIVE IN REPLYING TO MAURITIAN PERM REP RAMPHUL'S REQUEST FOR COMMENTS CONCERNING THE FOUR DRAFTS. FURTHER, WESTERN MEMBERS WOULD DISCOURAGE SOUTH AFRICANS, WHO ARE SOLICITING VIEWS ON WHETHER THEIR SPEAKING AND/OR SENDING A NOTE TO SC DURING DEBATE WOULD BE WISE. SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE NOT (YET) SPOKEN TO US CONCERNING THIS MATTER. DURING CONSULTATIONS, HARRIMAN HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT (OAU) AFRICANS WOULD OPOSE SOUTH AFRICA SPEAKING AT SECURITY COUNCIL.
YOUNG

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